

**DRILL-OPERATED TOOL TO ASSIST IN THE OPENING OF FIBER-
OPTIC CABLES**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A tool is provided for opening a cable having a length of filament disposed within a sheath. The tool has a mechanism for gripping an end of the filament and is equipped to be engaged with a powered mechanical rotation device that rotates a column about which the filament is spooled as the column is rotated. The spooled filament is confined to a longitudinal region by flanges, one of which may be removed to release the filament from the longitudinal region after it is spooled.

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